



City of Twin Falls Diversity and Inclusion Committee

Wednesday, June 3, 2020, 4:00 PM

203 Main Avenue East
Council Chambers

MINUTES

PRESENT: Richard Aldama, Liyah Babayan (joined the meeting at 4:14 p.m.), Stephanie Nevarez, Alejandra Hernandez, Sergio Larios (joined the meeting at 4:16 p.m.), Em English

ABSENT: Daniel Gardner

City Staff Members:

Travis Rothweiler, City Manager
Mandi Thompson, Assistant to the City Manager
Craig Kingsbury, Police Chief
J.P. O'Donnell, Police Officer

1) CALL MEETING TO ORDER/CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM

Travis Rothweiler called the meeting at 4:05 p.m.

2) CONSENT CALENDAR

a) **ACTION ITEM:** Diversity & Inclusion Committee Minutes of the April 30, 2020, Meeting.

By: Leila A. Sanchez, Recording Secretary

b) **ACTION ITEM:** Diversity & Inclusion Committee Minutes of the March 4, 2020.

By: Leila A. Sanchez, Recording Secretary

MOTION:

Alejandra Hernandez moved to approve the March 4, 2020 and April 30, 2020, Minutes. The motion was seconded by Sergio Larios. Voice vote showed all members voted in favor of the motion.

3) ITEMS OF CONSIDERATION

a) **INFORMATIONAL:** Timeline of appointment of new members.

By: Mandi Thompson, Assistant to the City Manager

Mandi Thompson explained Sergio Larios and Liyah Babayan's membership term will be extended to September. The City of Twin Falls will be seeking individuals to serve a three-year term, with the term starting September 2020. Currently, seven of the nine committee seats are filled. Joshua Palmer will place the application on the City's website.

Travis Rothweiler requested committee members contact Mandi if interested in being involved in the selection process.

b) **INFORMATIONAL:** City of Twin Falls response to COVID-19.

By: Mandi Thompson, Assistant to the City Manager

Travis Rothweiler explained the City of Twin Falls response to COVID-19.

Advisory Commissions: Meetings will continue to operate in a virtual setting and will resume normal operations in July 2020.

City Hall: Building is now open to the public. Customers are requested to use a mask.

Recreation Programs will comply with the Governor's order.

Utility Services: Customers with delinquent accounts are being asked to enter into a payment arrangement agreement. By completing an agreement, those with delinquent accounts will be required to have their bills brought current by July 15th. Will turn water off on all delinquent account holders who have arranged but failed to bring their bill current on July 15, 2020. A resource list will be provided to delinquent customers.

Liyah Babayan reported monies (contributed by a private donor) are available to help with utilities, food, and emergency cash. Monies are designated for marginalized and undocumented citizens and required to relate to COVID-19. In addition, the Idaho Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, CSI Refugee Center and Unity Alliance can provide information.

Travis explained information will be placed on the City's resource list and the City's website.

c) **DISCUSSION:** Roundtable on community resources for COVID-19 response.

By: Mandi Thompson, Assistant to the City Manager

Mandi Thompson gave an update on the HUD Consolidated Plan in which Mosaic Community Planning is currently creating for the City of Twin Falls.

Mandi also gave an update on the CARES Act. The City of Twin Falls received \$200,000. Funds can be used for rental and utility assistance.

Discussion followed.

-Mandi will check if CDBG Grant will match money for other grants.

-Mandi clarified that after public participation and community input, the HUD Consolidated draft plan will be presented to the City Council for review.

Em English reported the College of Southern Idaho received funding from a small source for a bit over a million dollars. Point of contact: CSI Student Services and CSI Counseling Center.

Alejandra Hernandez reported two new grants were received to help small business.

Discussion followed on translating information in different languages and placing on the Diversity & Inclusion Committee City website. The Refugee Center, St. Luke's and County of Twin Falls have translators available. The City of Twin Falls will find resources to compensate for time. Liyah also stated that donor money may be available to cover costs of translation of material.

Mandi asked the committee to assist her relating to translation of languages.

- d) **DISCUSSION:** Listening sessions and community feedback.

By: Travis Rothweiler

- e) **DISCUSSION:** Upcoming Listening Sessions

By: Travis Rothweiler

Travis commended Winnie Mwende Christensen, Liyah Babayan, Stephanie Neverez and Sergio Larios for organizing a vigil for George Floyd in the Twin Falls City Park. In addition, Richard Aldama was in attendance.

Liyah Babayan and Sergio Larios gave an update on the event. Speaker included Sheree Haggan, a diversity specialist at Google.

Liyah, for the record, asked why Mayor Suzanne Hawkins did not attend the rally.

Travis explained Mayor Hawkins was unable to reschedule a previous commitment. In attendance included himself, Chief of Police Craig Kingsbury, Captain Anthony Barnhart, Vice Mayor Ruth Pierce, Councilperson Christopher Reid, and city staff. He asked Liyah to contact him so he can schedule a time for her to meet with Mayor Hawkins.

Police Chief Kingsbury spoke at the vigil and thanked everyone for their participation. He pledged to the people conversations will continue. He reported that on Wednesday, June 3, 2020, a group of young people protested in front of City Hall and the Police Department.

Em English gave an update on Pride Week activities and the 5th Annual MV Pride Festival 2020 Social Distance Celebration. In addition, she is working on project for the LGBTQ community collecting inspirational 30 second one a day posting.

Travis discussed shooting for a community event at the park. Discussion followed on scheduling a special meeting and asking facilitator Shannon McGuire to attend. Proposed dates July 7, 8, and 9th.

Discussion followed on the upcoming July 4, 2020, event at the College of Southern Idaho.

Liyah stated the refugee community gather for the festivities at the CSI and this would be a great opportunity to distribute the Diversity & Inclusion pamphlet.

Travis will be meeting with CSI President Fisher next week, and at that time, will discuss the fireworks event and the possibility of handing out pamphlets.

4) ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Leila A. Sanchez". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'L' and 'S'.

Leila A. Sanchez
Recording Secretary

Any person(s) needing special accommodations to participate in the above-noticed meeting could contact Leila Sanchez (208) 735-7287 at least two working days before the meeting. Si desea esta información en español, llame Leila Sanchez (208) 735-7287.

Public Input Procedures

1. Individuals wishing to provide public input regarding matters relevant to the City of Twin Falls shall:
 - Wait to be recognized by the Mayor or Chairman
 - Approach the microphone/podium
 - State their name, and whether they are a resident or property owner in the City of Twin Falls, and proceed with their input.
2. The Mayor or Chairman may limit input to no less than two (2) minutes. Individuals are not permitted to give their time to other speakers.

Public Hearing Procedures for Zoning Requests

1. Prior to opening the first Public Hearing of the session, the Mayor or Chairman shall review the public hearing procedures.
2. Individuals wishing to testify or speak before the City Council or Planning & Zoning Commission shall wait to be recognized by the Mayor or Chairman, approach the microphone/podium, state their name, and then proceed with their comments. Following their statements, they shall write their name and address on the record sheet(s) provided by the staff. The staff shall make an audio recording of the Public Hearing.
3. A City Staff Report shall summarize the application and history of the request.
4. The Applicant, or the spokesperson for the Applicant, will make a presentation on the application/request (request). No changes to the request may be made by the applicant after the publication of the Notice of Public Hearing. The presentation should include the following:
 - A complete explanation and description of the request.
 - Why the request is being made.
 - Location of the Property.
 - Impacts on the surrounding properties and efforts to mitigate those impacts.
5. Applicant is limited to 15 minutes, unless a written request for additional time is received, at least 72 hours prior to the hearing, and granted by the Mayor or Chairman.
6. The City Council or Planning & Zoning Commission may ask questions of staff or the applicant pertaining to the request.
7. The general public will then be given the opportunity to provide their testimony regarding the request. The Mayor or Chairman may limit public testimony to no less than two (2) minutes per person.
 - Individuals are not permitted to give their time to other speakers.
 - However, five (5) or more individuals that received written notice of the public hearing may appoint, by written petition, a spokesperson. The written petition must be received at least 72 hours prior to the hearing and must be granted by the Mayor or Chairman. The spokesperson shall be limited to 15 minutes.
 - Written comments, including e-mail, received by 12:00 p.m. on the date of the hearing shall be either read into the record or displayed to the public on the overhead projector.
8. Following the Public Testimony, the applicant is permitted five (5) minutes to respond to Public Testimony.
9. Following the Public Testimony and Applicant's response, Council or Commission members, as recognized by the Mayor or Chairman, shall be allowed to question the Applicant, Staff or anyone who has testified. Responses shall be limited to answering the questions asked. The Mayor or Chairman may limit the time permitted for the answer.
10. The Mayor or Chairman shall close the Public Hearing. The City Council or Planning & Zoning Commission shall deliberate on the request. Deliberations and decisions shall be based upon the information and testimony provided during the Public Hearing. Once the Public Hearing is closed, additional testimony from the staff, applicant or public is not allowed. Legal or procedural questions may be directed to the City Attorney.

* Any person not conforming to the above rules may be prohibited from speaking. Persons refusing to comply with such prohibitions may be asked to leave the hearing and, thereafter removed from the room by order of the Mayor or Chairman.

